IAP9 Rec'd PCT/PTO 01 DEC 2005

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Attorney Docket No. GP-307707

Cord Bommelmann Matthias Hallik Jens Schenkenberger Patrick Verhee

HINGE ASSEMBLY

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT - SUBSTITUTE APPLICATION

Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria VA 22313-1450

Prior to the examination of the subject application, please file the attached substitute patent application.

This application is based on a German PCT application, the English translation of which is serving as the application for filing purposes. However, amendments to the application and claims are needed in order for the application to comply with US filing requirements.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura C. Hargitt - Attorney

Reg. No. 43,989

Telephone: 313-665-4710

Date: December 1, 2005

LCH:plul Attachment